

THE OCALA BANNER

FRANK HARRIS, Editor.

P. V. Leavengood, Business Manager.



MOTTO: THE BANNER, BELIEVING THOSE AT THE TOP WELL ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES, HAS TAKEN ITS STAND IN THE BARRICADES WITH THE COMMON PEOPLE, AND ITS FIGHT WILL BE MADE FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THOSE AT THE BOTTOM.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29 1904.

GOVERNOR JENNINGS' LETTER.

Following the well known custom of this paper to give all sides a hearing we print today a letter from Governor Jennings in reply to Senator Taliaferro's letter recently printed in this paper.

Governor Jennings claims that Senator Taliaferro is no more entitled to the credit for collecting the Indian war claims fund than was Senator Pasco and his associates in congress.

Senator Pasco was given twelve years and his associates, one after another, two or more terms, at least partly on account of it, and ultimately failed to get the claim in such a shape that it could be turned into the treasury of the state.

Why should Senator Taliaferro be treated less fairly?

It was Senator Pasco and his associates' misfortune that when the bill for the collection of this claim passed the senate it could not be engineered through the house, and when it ran the gauntlet of the house died a natural death on the table of the senate.

It may have been only "luck" with Senator Taliaferro, but the fact remains that by acting in entire harmony with his associates in congress he was able to pass the bill, which had been hanging fire for more than half a century, through both houses, and turned the cold cash into the treasury of the state of Florida.

Money talks. Admitting that his predecessors dealt the cards it must be granted that Senator Taliaferro played the hand both skillfully and adroitly and won out where others, one after another, in turn, had failed.

In statecraft, the same as in business, success has always been the standard of measurement.

The money having been paid into treasury of the state Governor Jennings contends that it has not gone for "lowering taxes and lessening



When the young mother is allowed to get up for her first meal, even though she takes it alone, it seems good to her to take this one step nearer the family circle, and she counts the days until her strength will be fully restored. But very often strength does not come as expected, and she lingers in languor and weakness. At such a time there is need of an invigorating tonic, and the very best tonic which a nursing mother can use is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It contains no alcohol nor narcotics. It gives real strength. "Favorite Prescription" is a reliable woman's medicine. It establishes regularity, dries weakening drains, heals inflammation and ulceration and cures female weakness. "I cannot praise Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription too highly as a tonic for tired, worn-out women especially those who are afflicted with female weakness," writes Mrs. Ira W. Holmes, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. "It has helped me very much and a skillful physician said to me in answer to my question as to its efficacy, 'I know of cases where it has really worked wonders.'" The Common Sense Medical Adviser, 1008 large pages in paper covers, is sent free on receipt of 21 one-cent stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Littlefield, N. Y.

the burdens of all the people," as claimed by Senator Taliaferro, as only \$430,833 was by legislative direction applied to the state's bonded debt.

What if not one penny had been applied to the cancellation of the state's indebtedness and the entire amount had been appropriated by the legislature for the building of good roads, the enlargement of the capitol building, or the payment of pensions, instead of levying taxes for these purposes, would not this amount received from the general government have "lessened the burdens of all the people and lowered taxes," identically in the same proportion as if the entire amount had been applied towards the payment of the state's bonded debt?

It is reaching the same place—accomplishing identically the same results—by a different route. That is all.

Can the securing of a pension for an Indian war veteran be made available for "lowering taxes and lessening the burdens of all the people?"

Sure. The soldiers in the Indian war were likewise soldiers in the civil war, or many of them were, and when one of the names of these veterans is put on the the federal list it is taken off the state list and in this way the "burdens of the people are lessened and the taxes lowered."

During his whole four years of service Governor Jennings charges that Senator Taliaferro has never introduced a bill, resolution or amendment on any subject embodying any principle of the democratic platform which he was commanded to do.

What does Senator Taliaferro say along this line? We quote his words: "I was among those in the United States senate who strenuously endeavored to bring to a vote the resolution to amend the constitution and provide for the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people."

Was that not doing something his platform commanded him to do?

Senator Taliaferro did that because he thought there were some republicans in favor of the measure and a possibility of its passage.

With a republican president and a republican senate and a republican house of representatives let us calmly suppose that Senator Taliaferro had introduced a bill, and persistently continued to do so, "for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1" would it not have been regarded as a "play to the galleries"—the small by-play of a politician?

An eminent poet has said something about "flowers wasting their fragrance on the desert air" and one greater than the poet has discouraged the strenuousness of "casting pearls before swine."

We believe the intelligent voters of Florida will entertain a higher opinion of Senator Taliaferro for not making a spectacle of himself by wasting his time in playing to the galleries.

If he had built up that kind of a reputation he would never have commanded the influence in that body, his success in accomplishing results shows that he possesses, and would not have been so valuable a public servant.

Governor Jennings also charges that Senator Taliaferro has not "procured from congress an appropriation of any nature for any place or point in Florida west of the St. Johns river."

The interior was never recognized in any manner, we may say, until Senator Taliaferro took his seat in the senate, but we now feel that we occupy a place on the map.

Ocala has secured an appropriation for a site for a public building and a bill making an appropriation for the building itself has been introduced in the senate and will follow in due course of time; Gainesville has secured an appropriation for a public building and Lake City, Orlando and other interior cities are beginning to take hope and courage.

Prominent citizens of Crystal River, in conversation, have recently said to us that though holding Governor Jennings in high esteem they are so well pleased with the appropriation Senator Taliaferro has secured for their port that they feel it unwise to "swap horses while crossing the

stream" and will vote to continue him in his seat as United States senator from Florida.

We think this is rapidly becoming the universal verdict of the people and to unseat him Governor Jennings will have to construct a stronger letter than the one he puts forth in today's paper.

To use a phrase of the street, Senator Taliaferro "has been doing things some."

Those who have read "If I Were King" were irresistibly drawn to the hero of the story because of his "doing things."

Suddenly and without preparation, placed in high office and only for a short while, "Francois Villon" took up the loose threads of the kingdom and entered quickly upon the work of transformation.

Everything became systematized and energized and he effected reforms in the cabinet and won battles at the head of his armies.

Meanwhile he was not unmindful of the "tender sentiment" and the heroine of the story, "Katharine de Vancelles," whom he captivated by his strength and ardor said to his rival and her rejected lover, that "a man had come to court."

In the same way the people of Florida regard Senator Taliaferro and say of him: "A man has been put in office!"

The governor sagely observes there was nothing original about the language of the bills passed by the present delegation in Washington, and the figures were not new. But the money was and the harbors will be—so will the public buildings. Will he tell us what was new about his work in Tallahassee, and where any feature of it differed from that of his predecessors? It was a sage Englishman who remarked on the speeches of a candidate: "What is good is not new, and what is new is bad."—Times-Union.

The governor thinks other delegations in Washington have done just as well as the present one. But if money talks we cannot agree—the money was paid quite lately. We have not said the Indian War Claim had not passed both houses at different times, but, in making his point, the governor shows the necessity of keeping a team that can pull together if the wagon is to come out of the mud. What good did it do us to have the senate pass the bill one year and the house another—we could not pay out prospects for cash, could we?—Times-Union.

FOR WOMEN

Much That Every Woman Desires to Know

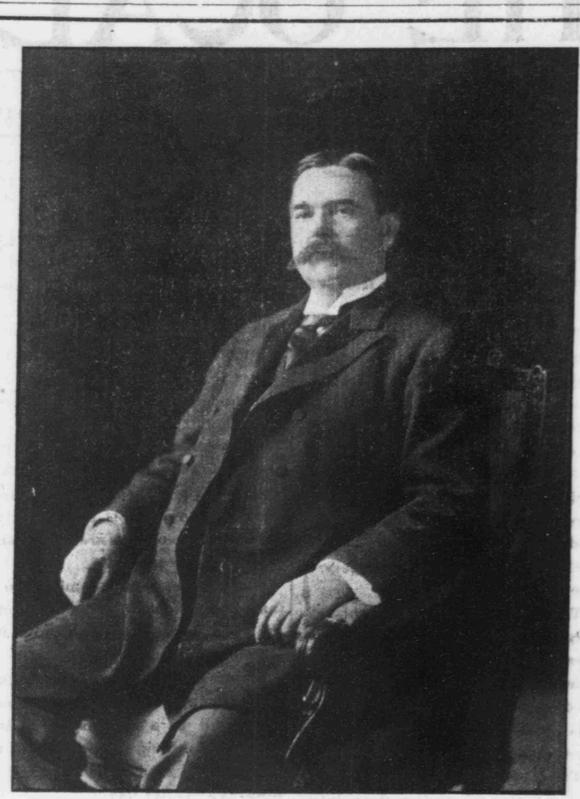
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HON. JAMES P. TALIAFERRO

[A Biographical Sketch.]

JAMES P. TALIAFERRO was born at Orange Court House, Virginia, September 30th, 1847, and spent his youth and young manhood in his native state.

He is a descendant of Robert Taliaferro, who came from England about the year 1650 and settled in Essex county, Virginia, and who was of the Blethen branch of what has since become a numerous family. Mr. Taliaferro's father was Edmund Pendleton Taliaferro, a prominent physician of Orange county, who devoted his entire life to the duties of his profession in that vicinity.

Mr. Taliaferro was engaged in acquiring his education in the noted school of William Dinwiddie at Greenwood, when the war between the states began, and left the school in 1864, when only 17 years of age, to enlist in the Confederate army, in which he served until the close of the war. Returning to his home after the surrender, he endeavored to resume and complete his studies, but the misfortunes of war had made such changes in the condition of the family that he decided to abandon his purpose and enter at once upon the responsibilities of manhood, in the hope of bettering his own fortunes as well as those of his family.

Removal to a more promising field than was then offered in his native state appeared to be imperative, and young Taliaferro came to Florida, seeking such employment as might present itself, and finding it, as many another adventurous youth has done, at the very foot of the industrial ladder. Possessing no capital but health, hope and a sturdy determination to win which has ever since been one of his chief characteristics, he took service as a lumber marker in a saw mill—a common laborer, wearing the roughest of clothing and living on the coarsest of fare. He "graduated" thence into a Baker county logging camp, with little improvement in his condition; but after some years of faithful service for others, he began to look out for himself. Having become familiar with the lumber business "from the ground up," he addressed himself to the attainment of the high position therein which he soon achieved, and which proved to be the safe basis of his later success.

During the strenuous period of his growth as a man and a citizen, Mr. Taliaferro, while making no pretensions as a politician, became profoundly interested in the political events of the times, and passed through the trying scenes of the reconstruction period shoulder to shoulder with some of Florida's bravest and worthiest spirits, helping to bear the bur-

dens of the trial of democrats charged with violations of republican election laws; and on one occasion was found in contempt for cheering in open court a verdict of acquittal in one of those trials. He served the democracy with unwearied enthusiasm and rare fidelity, without a thought of personal reward, during the subsequent years of democratic rule, and to such good purpose that he became the choice of his fellow democrats as a member of the state executive committee, of which body he was the chairman for several years.

In 1871 Mr. Taliaferro was married to Miss Jessie Hardy, of Norfolk, Va., and establishing a home in the city of Jacksonville has ever since resided there. Success came to him as the due reward of intelligent effort and upright dealing with his fellow men, and honors sought him. He became president of the First National Bank of Tampa, a member of the Florida state board of health and vice president of the C. B. Rogers Co. Unspoiled by prosperity, he has lived a life of sobriety and self control, never, for the past twenty four years, having touched intoxicating liquors.

His election to the United States senate in 1899 was an event of more than ordinary significance. In the place of the exciting scenes of stubborn contest which had characterized similar previous occasions, there was a calm, quiet, yet determined concentration of political forces in his direction which resulted in his election, on the first ballot, taken separately in the respective houses of the legislature, on the 18th of April, by a large majority, and the formal declaration of a like result on the following day, in the joint session, when he received 49 votes, a majority of 29 and a plurality of 22, of those present and voting.

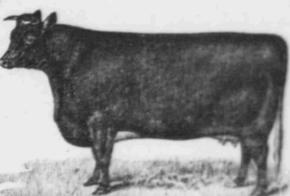
Commenting upon the event, the Times-Union and Citizen of April 20, uttered the following remarkable prophecy, which has been so remarkably fulfilled:

"The whole past life of James P. Taliaferro stamps him as the antithesis of the demagogue—a man of action rather than speech, who will perform more than he dares to promise; fair to his foes, loyal to his friends, unmoved in defeat and equal in victory—a very rock in time of trouble, but modest and quiet when success is assured. The service he has done left him with wide popularity because he is not a brass band campaigner; but the whole state will soon know this worthy son of Old Virginia, this citizen of Florida, as Duval county knows and honors and trusts him absolutely."

Tampa has two congressional candidates. The interior is modest and refuses to ask for a turn at the public mill. It modestly consents to grind the corn without toll.

Russia and Japan would probably consider it a rough Rooseveltian jest if the 100 American marines in Korea decided to annex the country themselves while the powers hesitate. —Atlanta Journal.

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NECESSITY IMPELLS ACTIVITY.

The pressure of population is being felt in this section and as a result the energies of the people are becoming every day more sensitive and acute.

The hands not only find many things to do but the brain is not idle—there is even a constant turning to mechanism and invention.

Several useful inventions—the product of the brains of our own people—have been noted in these columns which must revolutionize things in the terror of war as well as in the industries of glorious peace.

Just now the papers are filled with accounts of dwellings being burglarized and the safes in banks, stores and express cars dynamited and the funds appropriated.

The reading of these accounts, some of which are embellished with the tinge of yellow journalism, has no doubt set Postmaster Groves to thinking, and the result of his cogitations is a lock that is an attracting considerable attention.

It has been placed in position and is on exhibition at the postoffice.

It is a wonderful lock. Its weight is something enormous—it is larger than the weavers' beam that Goliath handled—and its length is fully a yard and yet its mechanism is very simple.

It has been fixed to the east door of the postoffice and it does its work well—the door is held firmly in place with the strength of a mammoth vice and the colossal device has attracted very general comment and curiosity.

Postmaster Groves has not yet applied for a patent but when he does we have no doubt that he will be flooded with inquiries concerning it, for all the safe-lock manufacturers in the country will be interested in it.

It may perhaps help to make Ocala famous.

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